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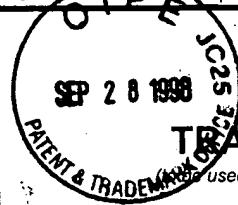
PTO/SB/21 REV 1 (12/97)

Approved for use through 09/30/2000. omb 0651-0032

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Application Number

08/855,061

Filing Date

05/13/97

First Named Inventor

S.D. Augustine et al

Examiner Name

Graham

Group Art Unit

3304

Attorney Docket Number

AUGA01000012

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- Fee Transmittal Form
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- Amendment/Response
- After Final
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- Assignment Papers (for an Application)
- Drawing(s)
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- Petition Checklist and Accompanying Petition
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Signature

Terrance A. Meador

Date

23 September 1998

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

S.D. AUGUSTINE ET AL

Serial No. 08/855,061

Filed: May 13, 1997

For: THERMAL BLANKET

) Group Art Unit: 3304

) Examiner: M. Graham

) Docket No.: AUGA01000012

IS | Reg Recor.
n.e.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In response to the Final Action dated 23 June 1998, please consider the following remarks in support of the patentability of Claims 20-39.

REMARKS

Claims 20-39 remain in the application, unamended by this paper.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 20-22, 34 and 35 for anticipation by Roehr. That rejection is respectfully traversed as follows.

The paper submitted by the applicant on 3 April 1998 sets forth the requirements for anticipation, and distinguishes Roehr from Claims 20-22, 34 and 35 for failing to include "an inflatable structure" formed between an "overlaying sheet" and a "laminate base sheet" including an under layer of a fibrous material and upper surface.

In the Final Action the Examiner has responded to those arguments.

First, the Examiner argues that Roehr's disclosure describes "a sealed envelope of flacid material (plastic foil) into which air is pumped at varying pressure(s) depending on what the user desires. Under such conditions it is inherent that what is being disclosed is an